REMARKS

New claims

The undersigned thanks the Examiner for offering the suggestions given at paragraph 7, pages 3-4 of the Office Action. Motivated by the Examiner's comments, the undersigned has added the following new claims based closely upon previous independent claims as follows:

Previous claim	1	8	11	12	13	20	23	24
New claim	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32

In each case the new claim is expressly limited in that the transport protocol adapter "is created by means of Java class loading mechanism." This limitation is disclosed in the third paragraph of page 6 and the last paragraph of page 8 as filed.

Attached please find form PTO-2038 with respect to the eight additional claims. Any deficiency in claim fees may be charged to our deposit account 15-0610.

Rejection over Arrouye et al.

The examiner rejects claim 1 over AAPA in view of US pat. no. 6,256,635 to Arrouye et al. ("Arrouye").

Arrouye is directed to the configuration of computers by means of scripts. This involves transmitting configuration data used by client computers to configure network configuration settings. This configuration datzl comprises name/value configuration property pairs as well as executable scripts (col. 1, lines 42 - 66; col. 13, lines 11-29).

Network configuration data may be in different, incompatible file formats (col. 8, line 6-50), and is used to control the parameters of different network protocols (AppleTalk, TCP/IP, PPP, see e. g. col.10, lines 48-90 and col. 11, lines 39-42).

These parameters are usually set manually by different user interfaces, e. g. control panels. According to the invention, tbey are set automatically by a script. In order to cope with the different interfaces of the software for each protocol, the script must know how the parameters of each protocol are accessed. For this purpose, the Scripting Plug-Ins described in col. 13, lines 11 to 29 are used: A scripting plugin takes a general command for reading or writing parameter settings and executes commands that are specific to its associated protocol software (col. 14, lines 13-19).

Thus, contrary to the Examiner's assertion, there are no "TCP or Appletalk plugins" that provide communication services. Rather, the scripting plugins make changes to the parameters of Appletalk or TCP communication software, as explained above.

Arrouye therefore does not disclose any pluggable transport protocol adapters. (One might say that Arrouye shows pluggable adapters that modify protocol parameters).

Neither do the principles of Object Oriented Programming, as described in Arrouye, col. 6, line 37 to col 7, line 40, disclose any pluggable transport protocol adapters.

Furthermore, neither Arrouye nor any AAPA disclose a transport protocol adapter comprising a logic to specify a message delivery quality. Such a transport protocol adapter does more than just translate messages from one protocol to another: The inventive transport protocol adapter is able to maintain a specified quality of service, although the underlying network may not provide this quality (page 5, line 23 to page 6 , line 3 of the present application as filed). For example, given an unreliable network, the transport protocol adapter may comprise schemes for storing message data, acknowledging receipt, and re-sending data packages over the network. This is not

possible with simple translating or forwarding of messages.

Arrouye would therefore lead away from the invention, since the use of simple translation (one given command is translated to a command in another language) would not allow specifying a quality of message delivery.

None of the other cited references discloses or suggests the use of pluggable transport protocol adapters, and inparticular no such adapters that allow specifying a quality of service:

- Craddock et al . (US 6,351,771) presents an invention allowing mobile users to access services located on a non-mobile network, in a manner transparent to the external service providers. The invention solves the problem of connecting mobile users to existing telecommunication services, without need to configure middleware in order to achieve the desired interconnectivity: a fully generic solution is described.

- Arnold et al. (US 6,167,449) solves the problem of querying naming network services such as DNS and LDAP in a manner which is independent of the name resolution protocol (such as BIND or LDAP).

- Kukura et al. (US 6,453,320) discloses a CORBA object migration facility. Object migration is supported by embedding an unspecified portion into CORBA Interoperable Object References (IORs). The unspecified portion is converted into a specified portion by querying a location service. Transport protocol plug-ins used in CORBA systems are thus different from plug-ins used in MOM messaging.

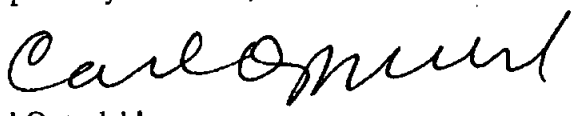
- Porras et al. (US 6,321,338) describe a network surveillance system. Traffic load, intrusion and errors can be analyzed by monitoring network packets. The term "message" used in this patent differs from the one used in the present application. In Porras' invention, messages relate to network packets such as ICMP (Internet Control

Message Protocol) packets. ICMP is a low-level network administrative protocol part of the TCP/IP stack. Such messages cannot be used for transporting application data. Furthermore, such messages only have "best effort" semantics. This means they can be lost when there is a network problem.

These arguments apply *mutatis mutandis* to the remaining independent claims 8, 11, and 12 as well as claims 13, 20, 23 and 24.

Reconsideration is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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